GLYCOSURIA AND DIABETES. By FREDERICK M. ALLEN, A.B. M.D. Boston: W. M. Leonard, 1913.

THIS remarkable book of nearly 1200 pages, combines an excellent presentation of the literature of diabetes and the results of experimental work on 200 dogs, 200 cats, and a smaller number of rabbits and guinea-pigs. The style of the writing is clear and, for the most part, absolutely convincing. If the experimental work is confirmed, the book will rank as a classic on the subject. No one interested in diabetes as a scientific problem can afford to be without this volume.

Allen's investigations were along two lines: (1) The behavior of sugars in the body, and (2) the production and modification of diabetes.

The various methods to determine sugar tolerance were first tested and preference was given to that of subcutaneous injection. In the normal animal the subcutaneous tolerance of levulose was a small fraction of that of dextrose. It was found that neither diabetes nor its complications could be produced in normal or predisposed animals by prolonged excess of dextrose. The "paradoxical law" is thus enunciated; the more sugar given, the more utilized. All types of non-diabetic animals follow this law and it holds true with alimentary, hunger, toxic, phlorhizin, adrenalin, thyroid, and nervous glycosurias. Hence, these are not diabetic conditions, for there is a true limit of tolerance in the diabetic organism. Furthermore, if the common sugars are given orally to normal animals, they have an antidiuretic effect and the same effect is produced when sugar is given in the above named glycosurias. The administered sugar acts as if it were in colloid combination in the blood. But if sugar be given to the truly diabetic, diuresis at once sets in, the sugar behaving like a crystalloid. This test proves that diabetes cannot be due to an overproduction of sugar.

As regards the second experimental portion of the book, the author distinguishes between diabetes gravis, which follows uncomplicated removal of nine-tenths of the pancreas and in which dextrose is excreted on a meat diet, and diabetes levis, in which a seventh or an eighth of the pancreas remains in position and dextrose is excreted on a starchy but not on a meat diet. When a sixth of the pancreas is left, a transient diabetes may ensue but never a permanent one. After establishing these facts experimentally, dogs were prepared which were not diabetic nor yet could develop diabetes in the ordinary course of events, but which had so little surplus of pancreatic tissue that untoward influences might render them diabetic. In this condition the following influences proved to be negative factors so far as inducing diabetes was concerned; alimentary glycosuria, acid intoxication, toxic glycosurias, phlorhizin glycosuria, excess of epinephrin or thyroid administration as well as operative reduction of adrenal or thyroid tissue or both, and certain nervous and circulatory alterations. These experiments strike a hard blow at the polyglandular doctrine of von Noorden and his pupils, and show it to be out of harmony with the facts. The only influences found which induced permanent diabetes in the predisposed dogs were: (1) Bernard's puncture which was followed by the characteristic changes in the islands of Langerhans; and (2) a disturbance in the blood supply to the pancreas which occurred after rapid obliteration of the portal vein. It was found that ligation of the pancreatic ducts in dogs with pancreas remnants, tended to the preservation of the islands of Langerhans and the advisability of the enervation of the pancreas remnant is also suggested in order to remove the nervous effects. In the author's mind the sequence of causation of human diabetes is to be expressed as follows: Nervous disorder, impaired function of the islands of Langerhans, deficiency of the pancreatic amboceptor, glycosuria, and other symptoms.

This book, the work of a hitherto unknown author, is a credit to American medical science and to the Harvard Medical School, in which it was accomplished. G. L.

DISEASES OF THE STOMACH, INTESTINES, AND PANCREAS. By ROBERT COLEMAN KEMP, M.D., Professor of Gastro-intestinal Diseases in the New York School of Clinical Medicine. Second Edition. Pp. 1021; 388 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1912.

THE first edition of this text-book was favorably reviewed in this JOURNAL in 1911 (N. S., cxlii, 892). It was suggested at that time (not by the present reviewer, however) that the book might well include a consideration of diseases of the liver and pancreas. In the new edition the author has followed this suggestion so far as the latter organ is concerned and has devoted a little over 100 pages to the subject. He has also devoted a chapter to infections by the Bacillus coli and has rewritten the article on duodenal ulcer in accordance with the views of recent authorities on the subject. The chapter on Methods of Diagnosis in pancreatic disease contains a rather full account of the numerous tests that have been suggested. Fortunately for the general practitioner the author emphasizes a very few methods which he considers of value: the examination of the motor and secretory functions of the stomach, the general test of the intestinal functions by the Schmidt-Strassburger diet, the Boldyreff (or Volhard) method of securing the pancreatic juice, the examination of the urine for sugar, the fecal